

*82* *Consistent* *DI* the chain of 1) or 3) or both 1) and 3) are truncated compared to its respective full length chain.

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57. (amended) The MHC molecule of claim 53, wherein the single chain linker is linked between the carboxyl terminus of the  $\beta$  chain and the amino terminus of the  $\alpha$  chain.

58. (amended) The MHC molecule of claim 53, wherein the  $\beta$  and  $\alpha$  chains are each independently selected from the group consisting of IE, IA, DR, DQ and DP proteins.

*83* 59. (amended) The MHC molecule of claim 53 further comprising a presenting peptide non-covalently linked to a peptide binding groove of the MHC molecule.

60. (amended) The MHC molecule of claim 53 wherein the MHC molecule is modified to carry a detectable tag.

61. (amended) A multivalent MHC complex comprising two or more linked MHC molecules of claim 53.

62. (amended) A MHC complex of claim 61 wherein the MHC molecules are linked to immunoglobulin domains.

63. (amended) A MHC complex of claim 61 wherein the MHC complex is modified to carry a detectable tag.

64. (amended) A method for selecting host cells which express a single chain MHC class II molecule comprising:  
introducing into host cells a cloning vector the comprises a DNA construct;  
encoding a single chain MHC class II molecule of claim 53;  
culturing the host cells to express the MHC molecule; and